

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 109572 TOSEC 110792

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S:FORTIZ

APPROVED BY:S/S:MR. ORTIZ

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P 061325Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT PRIORITY

INFO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 109572 TOSEC 110792

NODIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE MAY 6, 1976 FROM JIDDA

QUOTE S E C R E T JIDDA 3262

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US

SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF US POLICY

1. WE HAVE INDICATION FROM SAUDI PRESS THIS
MORNING THAT WE MAY BE MOVING INTO PERIOD OF RECRIMINATION
ABOUT WHO IS PUSHING JORDAN INTO THE ARMS OF THE SOVIET
UNION, AKINS' TESTIMONY BEFORE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
IS BASIS OF LONG EDITORIAL IN TODAY'S "ARAB NEWS" WHICH
EMPHASIZES US FOREIGN POLICY "FORCED OLD FRIENDS TO
SWITCH LOYALTIES", IT CLAIMS USG IS APPARENTLY IN FAVOR OF
MAINTAINING THE HIGH PRICE OF OIL AND IS ALLOWING-- IF NOT
SECRET

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ENCOURAGING-- THE SOVIET UNION TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN

SOMALIA, IT REFERS TO US REJECTION OF SAUDI OFFER TO DEAL WITH SOMALI QUESTION IN A MACHIAVELLIAN MANEUVER TO CONVINCE CONGRESS TO APPROVE US NAVAL FACILITY ON DIEGO GARCIA, IT CLAIMS JORDAN "IS BEING MERCILESSLY DRIVEN BY THE UNITED STATES INTO THE SOVIET CAMP "BY ITS FAILURE TO MEET ITS PROMISES TO PROVIDE HUSSEIN WITH AN AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM FOR DOLS 300 MILLION, AND MUCH MORE.

2. I BELIEVE IT UNLIKELY THAT THIS EDITORIAL (COMPLETE TEXT BY JIDDA 3260) WAS PRINTED WITHOUT GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. AT THE VERY LEAST, THE EDITORS WERE CONFIDENT THE SUBJECT AND THEIR TREATMENT OF IT FELL WITHIN THE (NARROW) PERMITTED BOUNDS OF JOURNALISTIC COMMENT, YOU SHOULD SEE THAT THE SECRETARY SEES IT BECAUSE COMING FROM THE SAUDI SOURCE IT WILL ATTRACT ATTENTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ELSEWHERE AND MIGHT BE CARRIED ON NATIONAL RADIOS IN THE REGION. PORTER UNQUOTE SISCO

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, DEFAMATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CAT-A, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE109572
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:FORTIZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760003-0714
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760583/aaaactke.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <02 NOV 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CRITICISM OF US POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SA, US, UR, JO
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006